

Chief, Foreign Broadcast Information Branch

Assistant Director for Operations

Commendation

1. The 27 October issue of the FBIB daily "pink sheet" entitled Significant Foreign Radio Transmissions carried an item from the Rome radio concerning curtailment of transportation in Yugoslavia. Two days later, a highly classified cable, containing virtually the same information from another source, was received in Washington and disseminated to the IAC agencies. This fact was brought to the attention of the Director of Central Intelligence with two observations: first, that FBIB provided the information 48 hours earlier, and second, that the item was sifted out of the average daily FBIB take of 135,000 words and presented immediately as "significant" and of potential intelligence value.

2. The signed comment of the Director of Central Intelligence stated "I think the boys in FBIB should get a synopsis of this with congratulations both from you and from me. I also think it merits a cable to the editors abroad or letter to those at home who have shown such excellent discrimination."

3. Since this office is unable to determine exactly which FBIB field bureau, editors or analysts were responsible for this outstanding example of the service rendered by FBIB to US intelligence agencies, request that you take action as indicated in Paragraph 2 above.

4. In view of the increasing number of incidents of this type, it is apparent that your editorial personnel, both in Washington and in the field, have proved themselves as intelligence experts in their own right, and their positions and assignments should be considered accordingly. Although the value of FBIB as a rapid "news service" has long been recognized, the important role played by your personnel in the collection, selection, and presentation of intelligence data has often been overlooked. FBIB is now an integral part of the intelligence process and deserves congratulations on the manner in which it is performing its intelligence functions.

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